

NEWS from



Bill Postmus

Supervisor, 1st District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 16, 2001

Contact: Brad Mitzelfelt
(909) 387-4830

SUPERVISORS APPROVE EXTENSION OF PAY, BENEFITS TO MILITARY RESERVE EMPLOYEES

SAN BERNARDINO--The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors today approved additional pay and benefits for military reservist employees who are called to active duty.

The recent terrorist attacks on the United States have resulted in some County employee military reservists being called to active duty for an indefinite period of time. Under existing labor agreements, called-up reservist County employees have a right to be paid their regular salary during the first 30 days of military duty each fiscal year. After 30 days, the employees receive only their military pay, which is generally significantly less than their County pay.

The Supervisors today initially approved an ordinance to provide for employees on military leave the difference between their military pay and County pay for up to 150 days beyond the 30 days of full County pay. The ordinance, which amends the Consolidated Memorandum of Understanding with the San Bernardino Public Employees Association and the San Bernardino Safety Employees Association, also provides for continued health and dental plan payments. The ordinance requires a second reading by the Board of Supervisors, which will take place during the Board's October 23 meeting.

During the Persian Gulf War and Kosovo crisis, similar actions were taken by the Board. Approximately 100 County employees are currently in the military reserve. As of October 1, six have been called to active duty.

"We as a county government need to support our nation's response to the attacks against us," said First District Supervisor Bill Postmus. "This action will help financially support our employees who have voluntarily made themselves available to defend this country. I believe all employers should do whatever they possibly can to make sure our military reservists can continue to support themselves and their families during times of crisis."